

Lake Wise Info Sheet



Shoreland Best Management Practices for Lake-friendly Living

Benefits

-  Water Quality
-  Wildlife Habitat
-  Protection & Resiliency

New York State Federation of Lake Associations (NYSFOLA)

visit nysfola.org

Adirondack Lakes Alliance (ALA)

visit adirondacklakesalliance.org

 See NYS DEC for more information

FORM A LAKE ASSOCIATION

How to build capacity & protect your lake



VTDEC Lake Wise Program

Why have an association?

Associations form for many reasons. In New York State, lake associations coordinate and provide a voice for the lake community on a diversity of issues ranging from private road maintenance to water quality and wildlife issues to organizing fun events such as a boat parade or ice out. Shoreland owners and lake recreationists benefit greatly by working together to protect the lake.

“Founded in 1983, NYSFOLA is a not-for-profit coalition ... dedicated to the protection and restoration of New York lakes.”

Forming a lake association

Many lakes in New York already have associations - find out if your lake or pond already has one and get involved or start one yourself! The non-profit organizations, **New York State Federation of Lake Associations (NYSFOLA)** and **Adirondack Lakes Alliance (ALA)**, represent lake associations and share information and resources with members for the purpose of protecting and restoring lakes.

It can help to start a lake association with a commonly shared concern or question. For example, neighbors with a common interest in the lake's water quality might want to form a lake association to learn more about **lake monitoring** or to start a **boat steward program** to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. Lakeshore owners that want to improve water quality might want to form a lake association to promote the adoption of 'lake-friendly' practices. Lake association



work has social benefits too. Associations develop a communication network for sharing lake news, develop partnerships among neighbors, and provide opportunities to meet neighbors, volunteer, and participate in fun events!



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